



Pickens High School

150 Blue Flame Drive
Pickens, SC 29671

Grades	9-12 High School	
Enrollment	1,412 Students	
Principal	Marion Lawson	864-397-3600
Superintendent	Dr. Kelly Pew, Ph. D.	864-397-1000
Board Chair	Judy Edwards	864-859-7338

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2013	Good	Average*
2012	Good	Average
2011	Average	Below Average
2010	Average	Average
2009	Average	Good

* The School's 2013 Growth Rating was raised one level because of substantial improvement in the achievement of students belonging to historically underachieving groups of students. The Growth Rating may or may not have been affected by the performance of these groups in prior years.

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF HIGH SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
28	5	0	0	2

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 12/14/2013.

High School Assessment Program (HSAP) Exam Passage Rate: Second Year Students

	Our High School			High Schools with Students Like Ours		
Percent	2011	2012	2013	2011	2012	2013
Passed 2 subtests (%)	81.6%	79.3%	82.2%	83.6%	84.6%	85.2%
Passed 1 subtest (%)	9.9%	12.8%	12.3%	9.9%	9.7%	10.0%
Passed no subtests (%)	8.5%	7.9%	5.5%	7.0%	6.4%	5.3%

HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013

	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours
Percent	92.7%	92.8%

Four-Year Cohort Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2012*	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Four-Year Cohort	359	378	354	324
Number of Graduates in Cohort	266	282	280	250
Rate	74.1%	74.6%	79.0%	77.5%

*Used to calculate current ESEA/Federal Accountability Grade.

Five-Year Graduation Rate

	Our High School		High Schools with Students Like Ours	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
Number of Students in Cohort	404	355	362	321
Number of Graduates in Cohort	290	273	286	250
Rate	71.8%	76.9%	78.5%	78.5%

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our High School	High Schools with Students Like Ours*
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	71.4%	80.4%
English 1	64.8%	75.9%
Biology 1/Applied Biology 2	80.1%	80.1%
US History and the Constitution	65.6%	64.5%
All Tests	70.6%	74.4%

* High Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	High Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
Students (n=1,412)				
Retention rate	1.2%	Down from 2.7%	2.6%	2.9%
Attendance rate	94.1%	No Change	95.1%	95.1%
Served by gifted and talented program	16.6%	N/A	22.1%	17.5%
With disabilities	11.4%	N/A	10.9%	11.9%
Older than usual for grade	6.3%	N/A	6.3%	7.9%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	1.2%	Up from 0.9%	1.2%	1.1%
Enrolled in AP/IB programs	20.9%	Up from 13.2%	21.0%	15.1%
Successful on AP/IB exams	59.0%	Down from 64.3%	52.0%	51.5%
Eligible for LIFE Scholarship	57.3%	Up from 56.7%	31.6%	30.6%
Annual dropout rate	3.0%	Down from 5.0%	2.6%	2.3%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	2.6%	Up from 1.3%	6.3%	7.2%
Enrollment in career/technology courses	643	Down from 647	553	418
Students participating in work-based experiences	15.2%	Up from 7.8%	19.0%	14.6%
Career/technology students attaining technical skills	85.0%	Up from 84.5%	85.4%	84.8%
Career/technology completers placed	N/A	N/A	98.4%	98.3%
Teachers (n=75)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	65.3%	Up from 63.5%	67.2%	63.4%
Continuing contract teachers	93.3%	Down from 95.9%	83.7%	78.8%
Teachers returning from previous year	93.2%	Up from 91.9%	88.4%	86.2%
Teacher attendance rate	93.7%	Down from 94.6%	94.7%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$50,484	Up 2.1%	\$50,498	\$48,699
Professional development days/teacher	8.7 days	Up from 8.1 days	11.7 days	9.9 days
School				
Principal's years at school	13.0	Up from 12.0	3.0	3.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	29.8 to 1	Up from 29.5 to 1	28.0 to 1	26.9 to 1
Prime instructional time	86.4%	Down from 87.5%	88.4%	89.0%
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,718	Up 6.0%	\$7,331	\$7,919
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	61.0%	Up from 58.7%	59.0%	57.0%
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	63.0%	Up from 60.0%	61.0%	60.0%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	96.4%	97.7%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Modern language program assessment	N/A	N/A	15.0	11.0
Classical language program assessment	N/A	N/A	N/A	15.0

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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Performance By Student Groups

	HSAP Passage Rate by Spring 2013		End of Course Tests Passage Rate		On-time Graduation Rate, 2013	
	n	%	t	%	n	%
All Students	314	92.7%	1123	70.6%	378	74.6%
Gender						
Male	158	89.9%	572	68.9%	204	64.7%
Female	156	95.5%	551	72.4%	174	86.2%
Racial/Ethnic Group						
White	297	92.6%	1057	71.1%	357	74.8%
African American	N/A	N/A	37	54.1%	N/A	N/A
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	20	80.0%	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disability Status						
Disabled	27	77.8%	109	40.4%	37	48.6%
Migrant Status						
Migrant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Proficiency						
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Status						
Subsidized meals	118	89.8%	497	62.2%	152	61.2%

NOTE: n=number of students on which percentage is calculated; t=number of tests taken.

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Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

Pickens High School, fostering an environment of excellence, relies on the combined efforts of our faculty, staff, students, parents, School Improvement Council (SIC), and the community to provide a quality education for our students. Working to be a data driven school, Pickens High continuously focuses on improving student achievement.

The class of 2013 consisted of 292 graduates, 70 of whom were recognized as Honor Graduates. Ten graduates qualified for the prestigious Palmetto Fellows Scholarship, and 168 qualified for Life Scholarships. The class of 2013 was awarded and accepted over \$5.8 million in scholarships.

Pickens High School is a High Schools That Work (HSTW) site. Our teachers incorporate HSTW research-proven strategies into their instruction in order to provide students with comprehensive, rigorous, and relevant educational opportunities. Appropriate expectations of students and effective implementation of curriculum are guided by the HSTW 10 Key Practices.

Pickens High School continues to value academics. Professional development focuses on instruction and technology that engages students and prepares them to meet SC Curriculum Standards at the highest levels. In addition, literacy strategies were a focus of professional development leading toward implementation of common core standards for all content areas.

Teachers at Pickens High School continue to increase the academic rigor in their respective courses. Wanting to offer a greater variety of rigorous courses, PHS encourages students to participate in a comprehensive AP program. The addition of AP Grammar and Composition and AP Human Geography strengthened the offerings of the AP program at PHS.

150 Blue Flame Drive feels more like home after our second year in the new school. Grateful to our teachers, staff, and administration for their continued commitment to excellence, the new facilities and available technology are utilized to provide an education that will truly prepare students for life and work in the 21st Century. Through plays, concerts, pageants, athletic events, ball games, and other competitions, the Pickens community as a whole can enjoy Pickens High School...Where Excellence Has a New Address!

Marion Lawson, Principal and Isaiah Scipio, School Improvement Chairman

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	76	293	77
Percent satisfied with learning environment	84.2%	81.3%	87%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	93.5%	87.7%	84.4%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	80.6%	85.6%	83.1%

* Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included. For schools without grade eleven, only the highest grade was included.

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ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/eSEA/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	83.1
Overall Grade Conversion	B

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Pickens High School school has been designated as a:

- ☐ Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- ☐ Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- ☐ Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- ☒ Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality Data

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.9%	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	4.9%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.9%	0.0%	No

Abbreviations for Missing Data

Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested	Graduation Rate
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Grades 9-12

All Students	237.4	233.3	79.8	71.4	99.7	99.4	74.1
Male	232.7	230.3	79.0	72.5	100.0	99.4	70.6
Female	241.8	236.2	80.6	70.3	99.4	99.4	77.9
White	237.6	233.8	79.9	71.4	100.0	99.7	74.1
African American	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	76.5
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	213.0	204.6	63.4	N/A	100.0	100.0	49.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	229.6	222.7	76.5	68.8	99.2	98.4	56.8
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	226	223	77	73	95.0	95	74.1

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Two-Year HSAP Trend Data

	School Year	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Below Basic	% Basic	% Proficient	% Advanced	School % Proficient or Advanced*
English/Language Arts								

All Students	2012	369	99.7	8.2	30.2	37.0	24.7	61.7
	2013	326	99.7	7.1	26.5	32.3	34.2	66.5

Mathematics

All Students	2012	369	99.7	20.4	27.2	26.6	25.8	52.4
	2013	326	99.4	16.0	26.2	31.5	26.2	57.7

Abbreviations for Missing Data